



Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

# Earth Observation and Geodesy

Félix Perosanz (CNES)

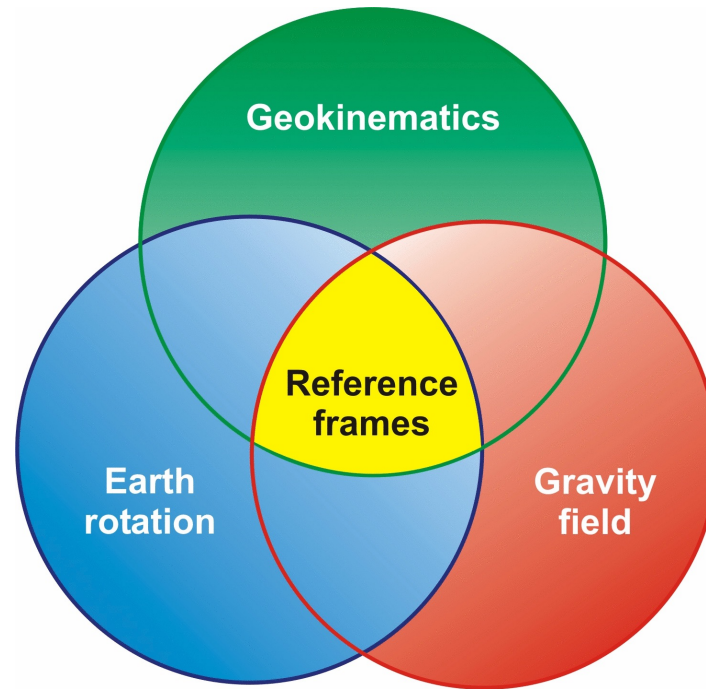
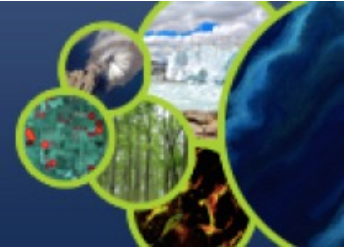
WG Disasters 17 (virtual)

15, 16, and 17 March 2022



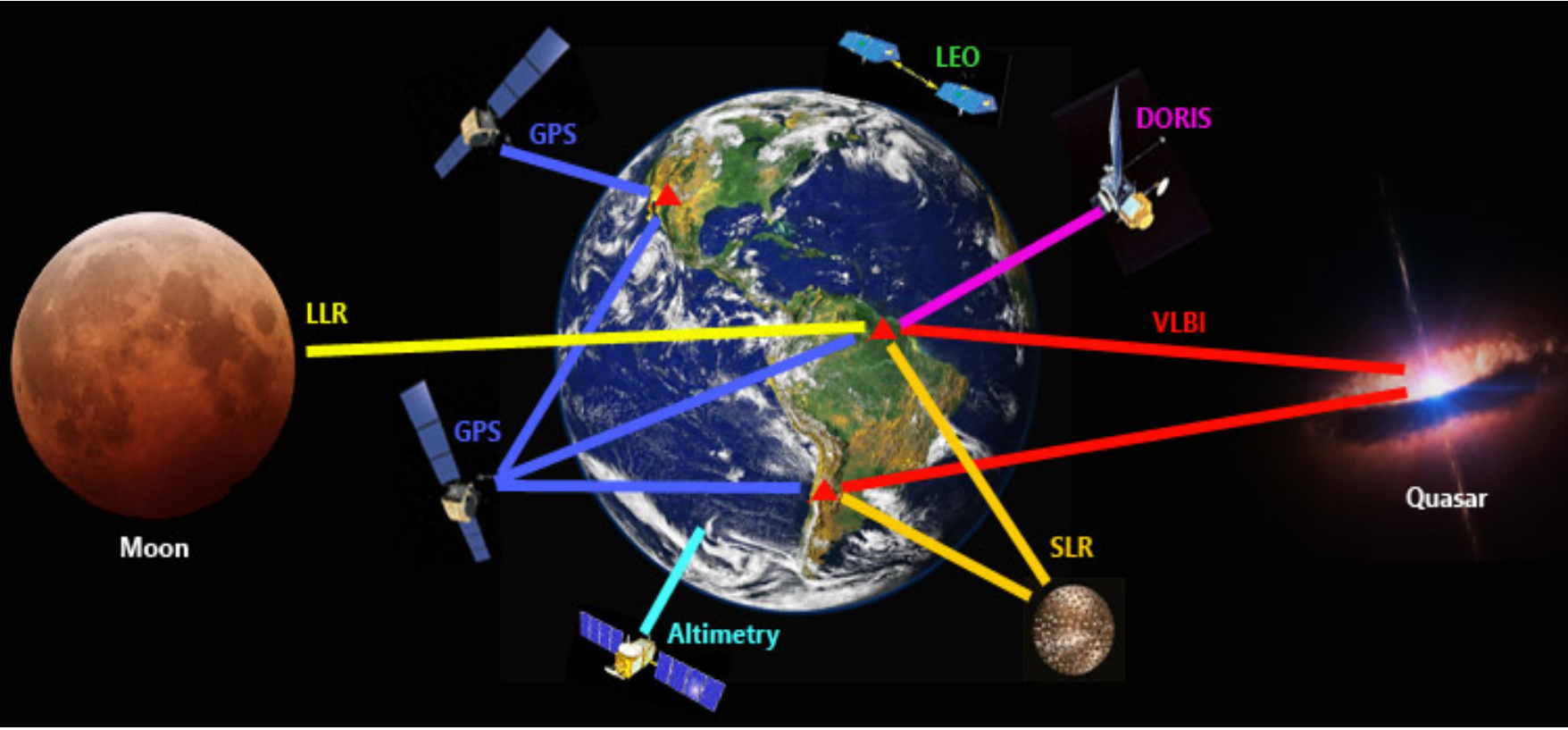
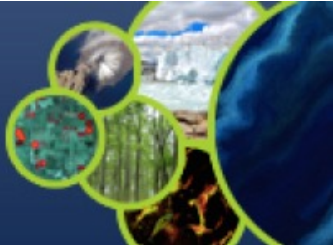


# The pillars of Geodesy





# Space geodetic techniques

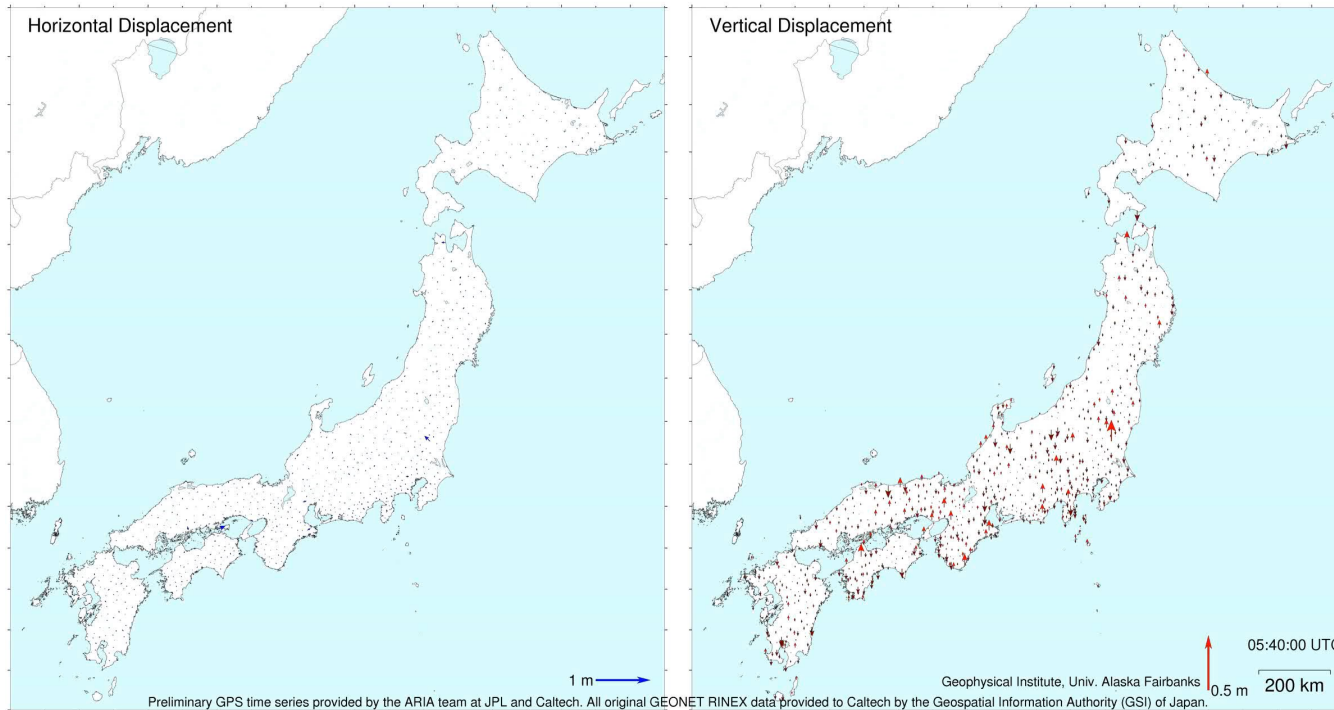
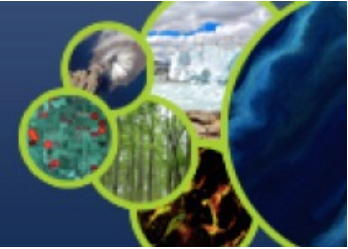


International Association of Geodesy (IAG): <http://www.iag-aig.org>





# PPP alternative to differential GNSS



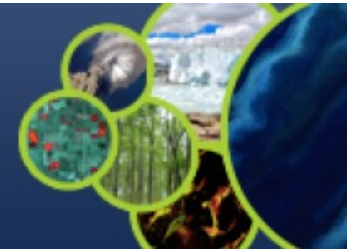
- Precise-Point-Positioning (PPP):
- needs precise satellite orbits/clocks
  - gives absolute station coordinates
  - no reference station is needed
  - similar accuracy as differential GNSS
  - compatible with parallel massive processing

➤ Example: Coordinates of 1200 stations computed every second!

**Tohoku Earthquake 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011**



# Sounding the atmosphere using GNSS

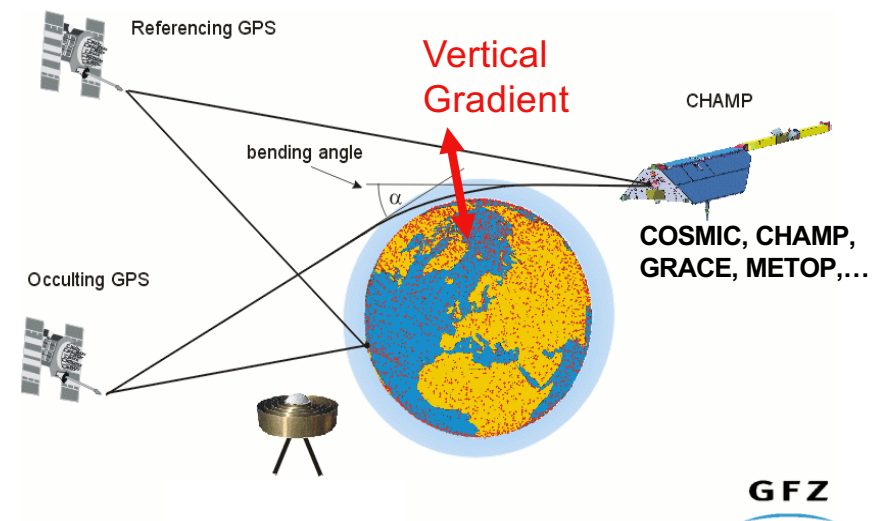
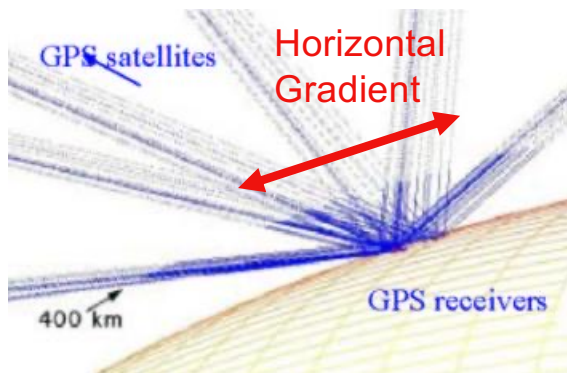


GNSS signals are sensitive to atmospheric effects:

- In the troposphere (0-40km) the delay is a function of : Temperature, Pressure, Humidity
- In the ionosphere (~400km) the delay is a function of the Total Electron Content

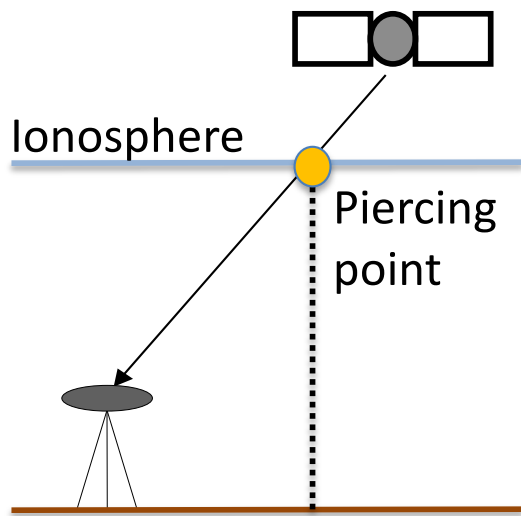
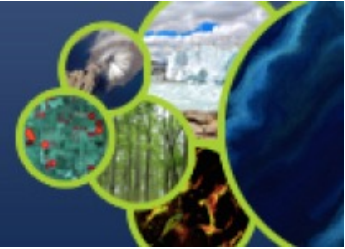
A ground network of stations helps in observing the **horizontal gradient**

Radio-occultation measurements from LEO satellites helps in measuring the **vertical gradient**





## Earthquake and tsunami signal in the ionosphere

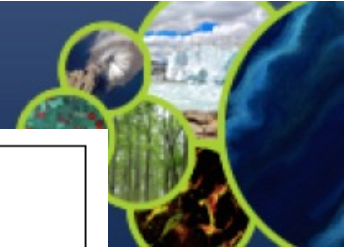


In this example:  
1200 stations x 15 satellites  
generate a moving pattern  
of piercing points

*CREDIT: NASA/JPL-Caltech*

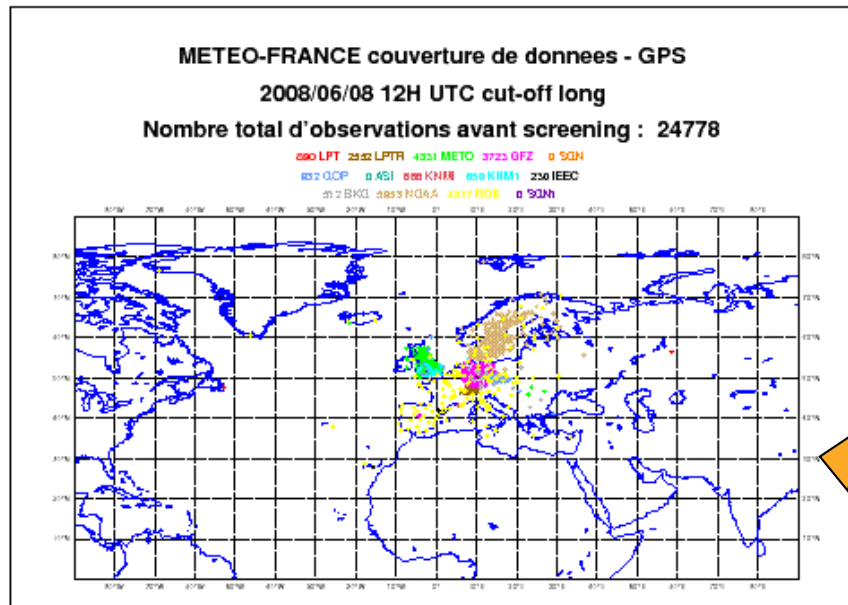
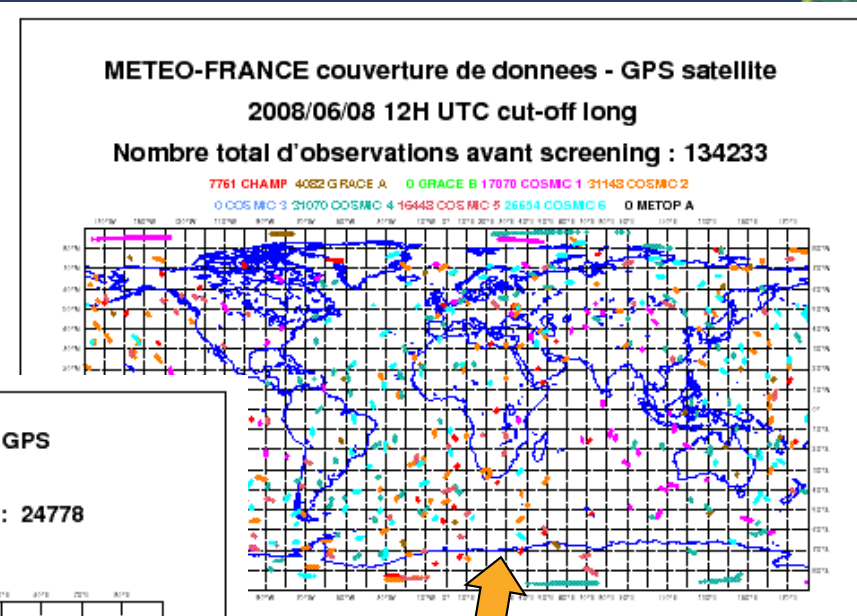


# Weather forecast



GNSS data from ground and space receivers are processed to estimate tropospheric delays

- assimilated into weather forecast models for many years



**Radio-occultation GNSS data**

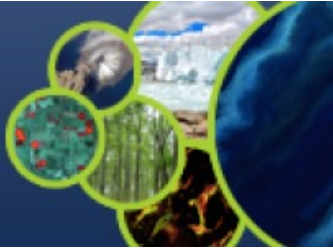
**Ground GNSS data**

Courtesy Jean PAILLEUX, Météo France





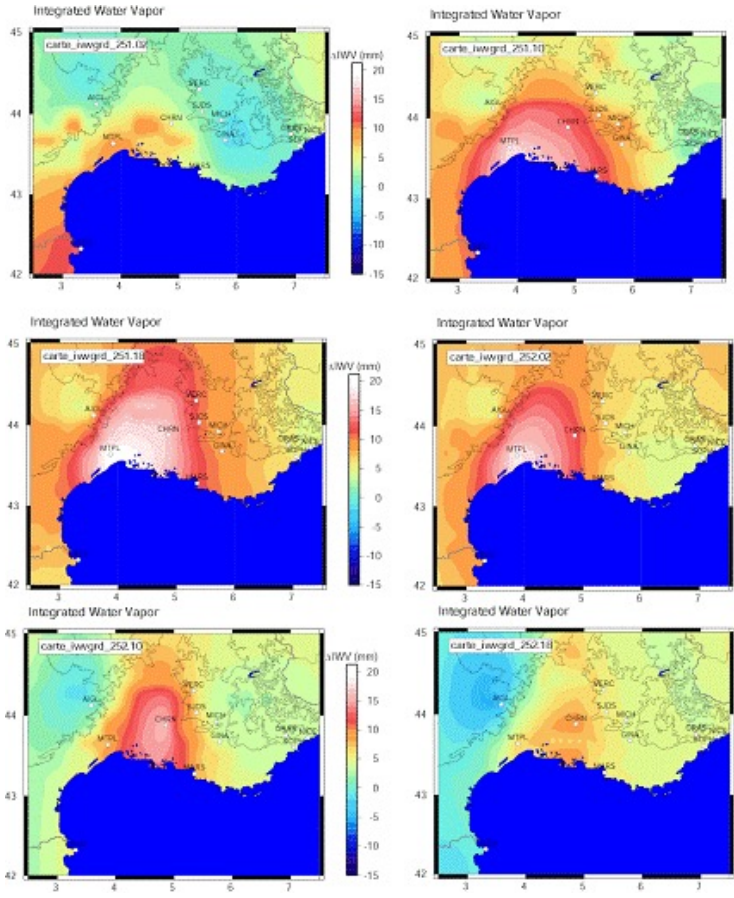
# Extreme weather event anticipation



GNSS tropospheric solutions can provide a map of the *Integrated Water Content* of the atmosphere **before** the rain

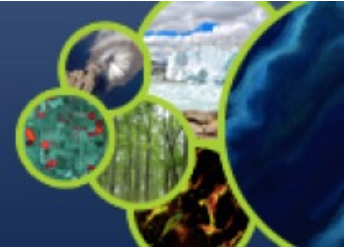
- Example of a Mediterranean event (Montpellier area)

Champollion et al. 2005





# GNSS Reflectometry (GNSS-R)

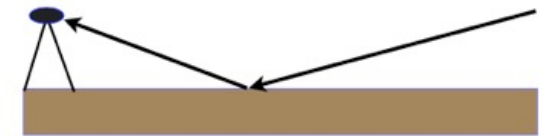


GNSS receivers can track **reflected** signals. These signals are impacted by a change :

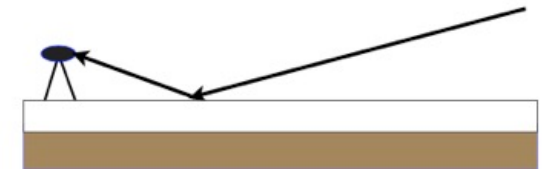
- in the height of the reflecting surface
- in the nature of the surface
- in the physical characteristics of the surface

➤ Example of DRR: detection of flash floods

the reflections off bare soil produce this SNR curve



add a snow layer



add vegetation



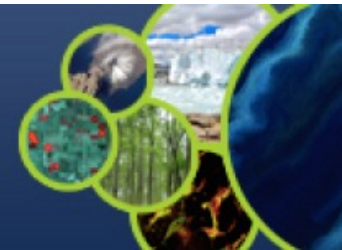
make the soil wet



Larson et al., 2008; Larson et al., 2009; Small et al., 2010

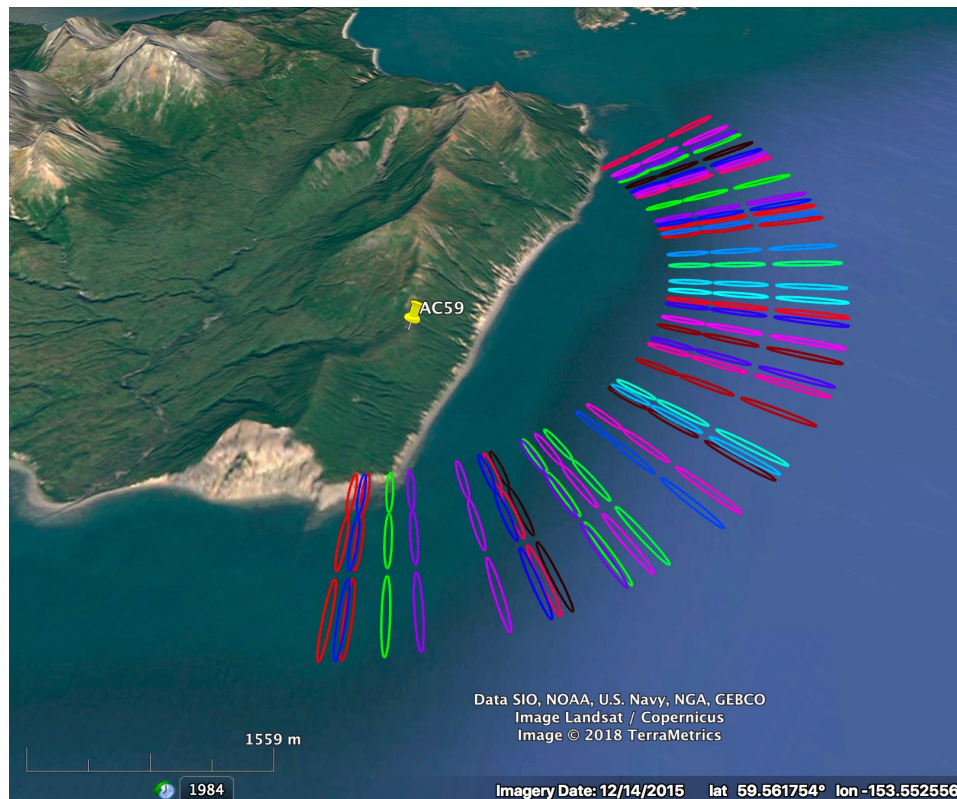


# GNSS-R for coastal altimetry



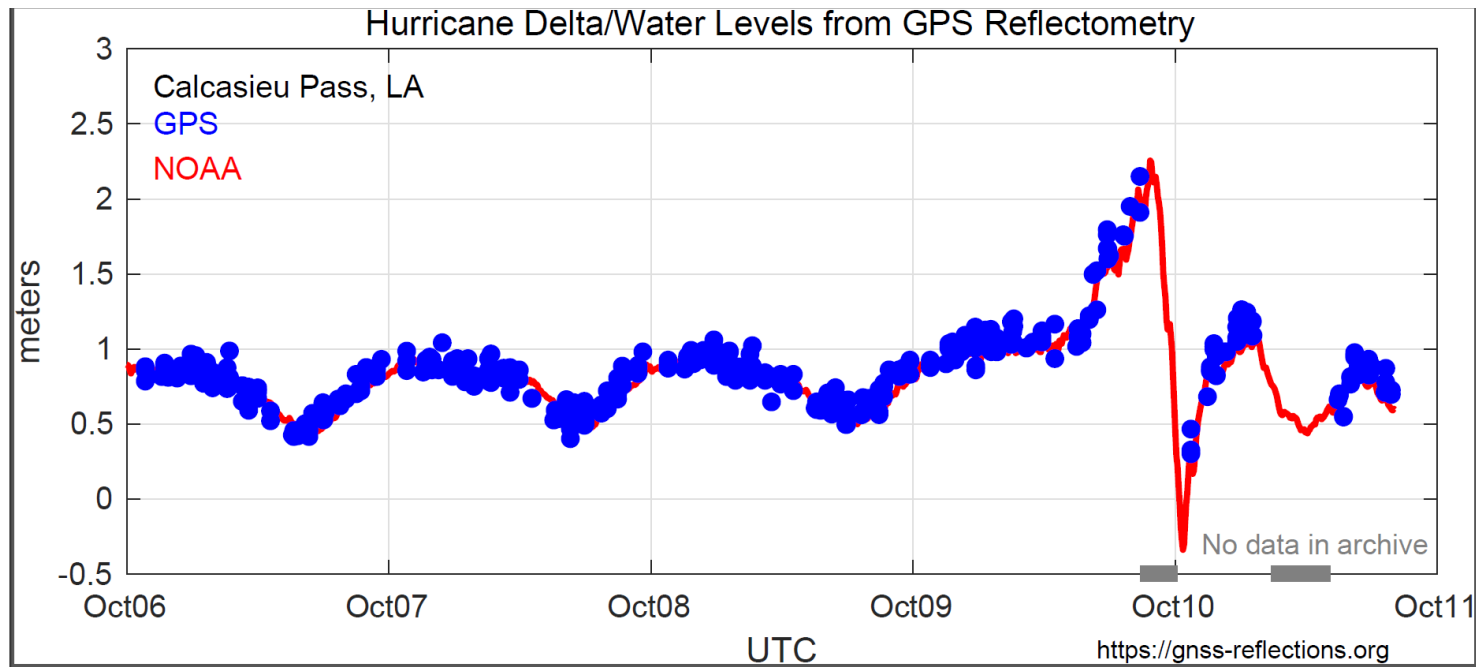
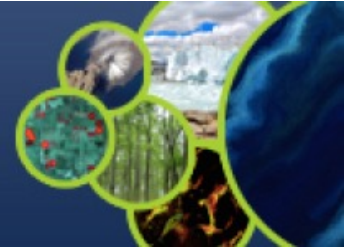
Reflector Height  
Analysis by Simon Williams, NOC

Courtesy K. Larson





# GNSS-R to monitor hurricanes



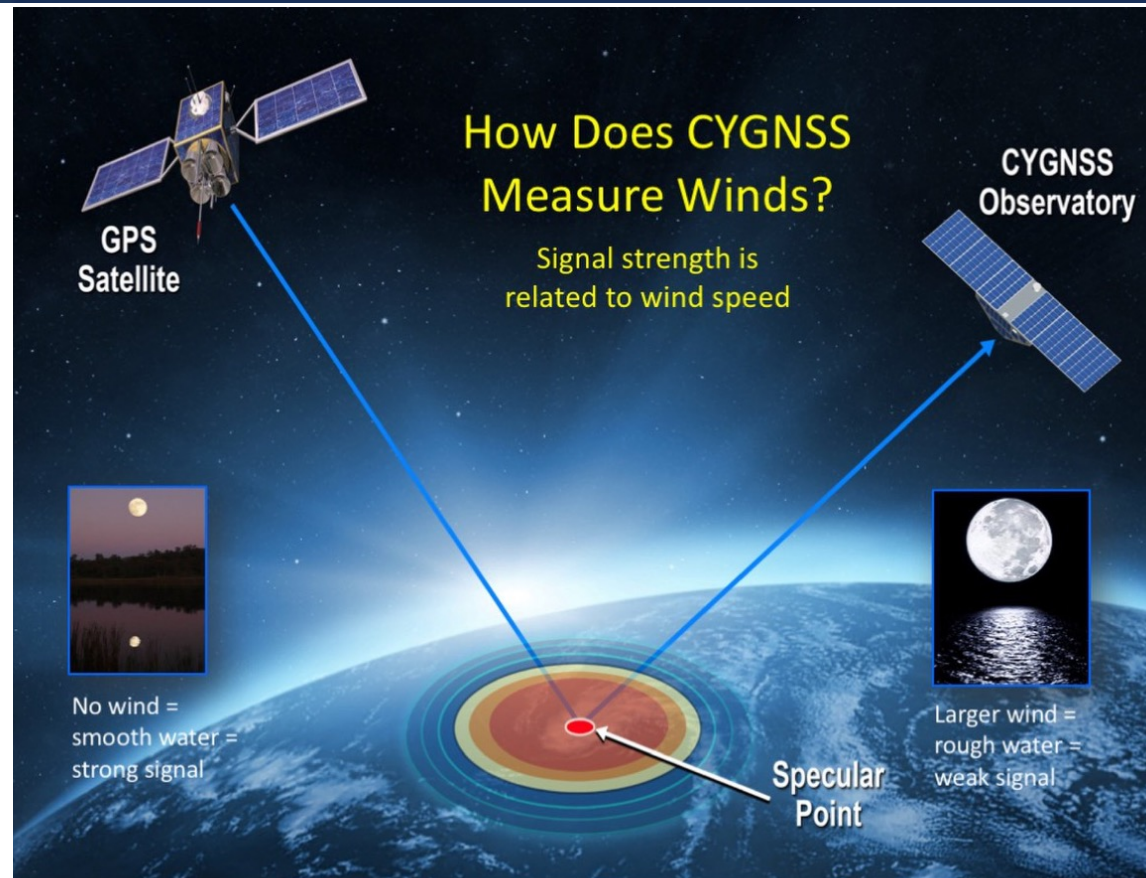
Courtesy K. Larson



# GNSS-R to anticipate hurricanes



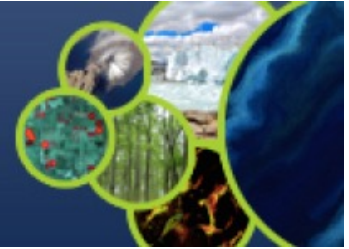
CYGNSS NASA mission



<https://www.nasa.gov/cygnss>



# Earth gravity field variations

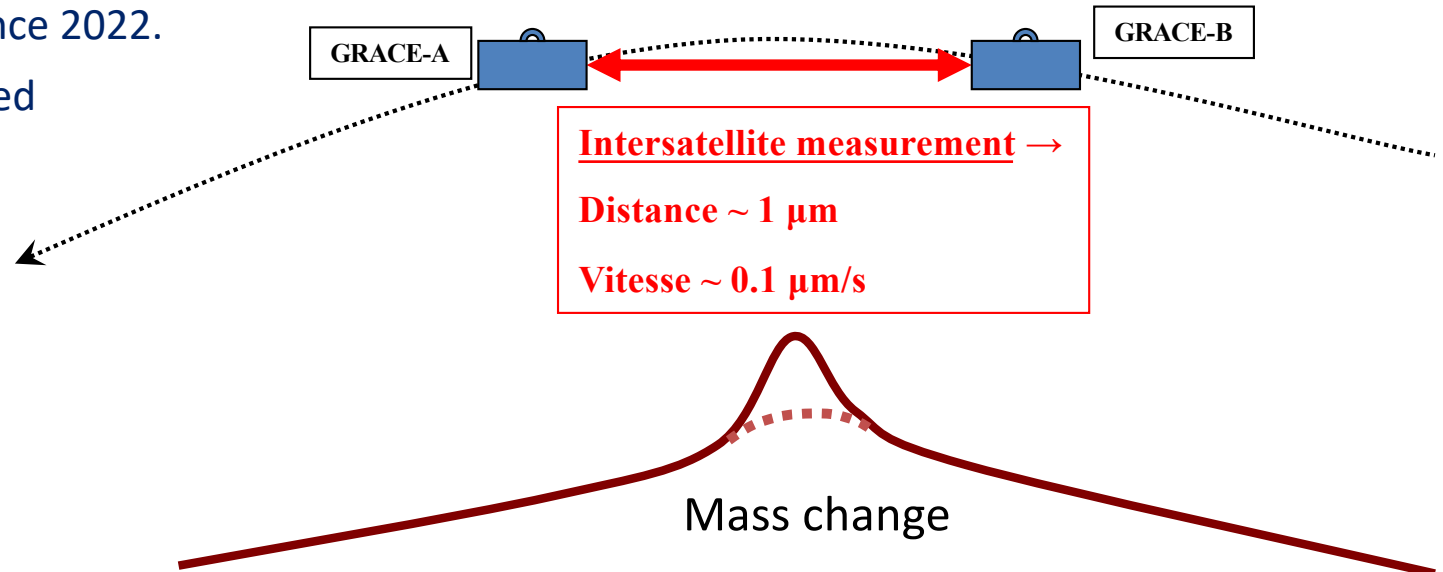


The GRACE missions are providing a global Earth gravity map every months since 2002.

Gravity changes can be tracked

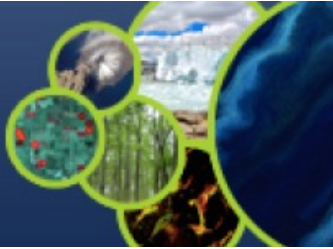
They reflect:

- Crustal deformation
- Water redistribution

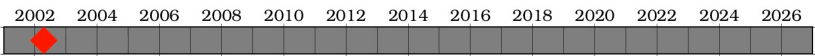




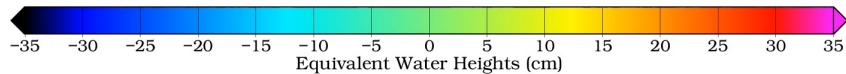
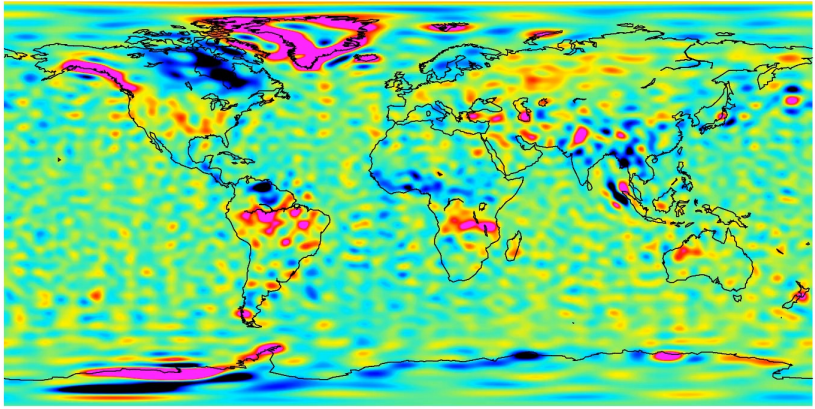
# Earth gravity field variations since 2002



Seasonal hydrologic signals: Amazon basin, India...  
Ice mass loss: Greenland, Alaska...

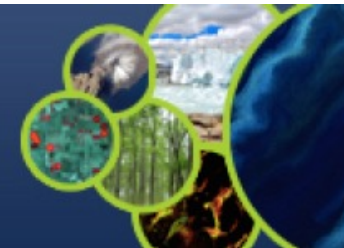


Gravity solutions from GRACE and GRACE-FO  
CNES/GRGS — RL05 — 2002/04/01 — 2002/04/30  
Equivalent Water Heights differences to mean field (degree 2 to 90)  
min -92.39 cm / max 277.59 cm / weighted rms 13.13 cm / oceans 7.69 cm

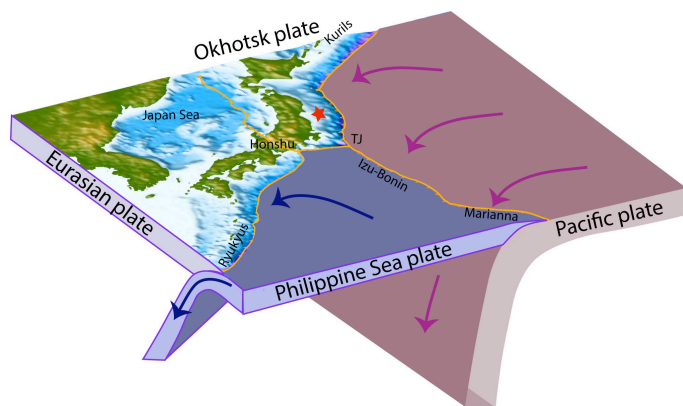




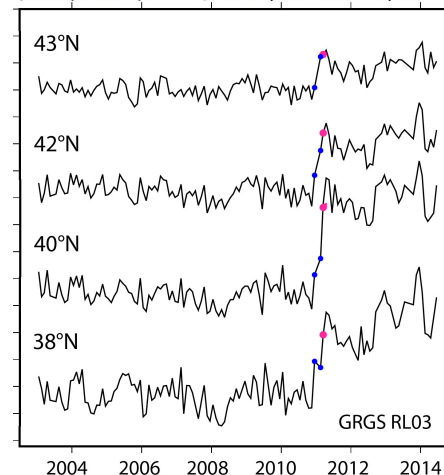
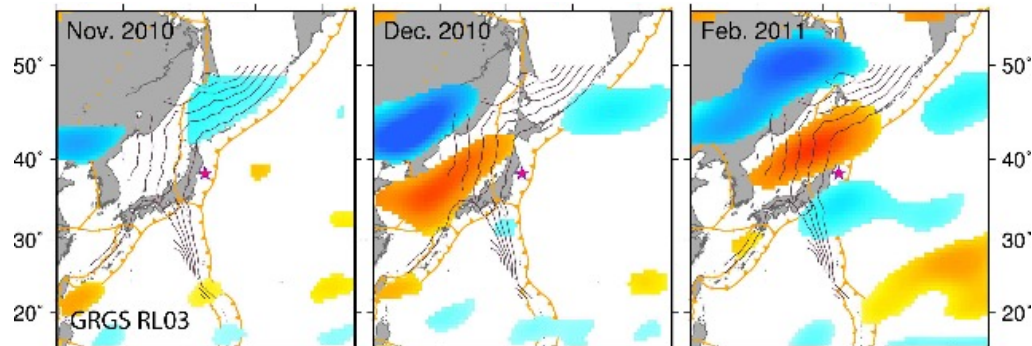
# Earthquake precursor from gravity measurement



Migrating gravity pattern observed 3 months before the Tohoku earthquake  
Confirmed on others giant earthquakes  
Still need additional investigation



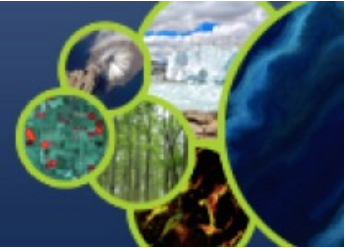
Panet et al., Nature Geosciences, 2018, *Migrating pattern of deformation prior to the Tohoku-Oki earthquake revealed by GRACE data*







## Summary and perspectives



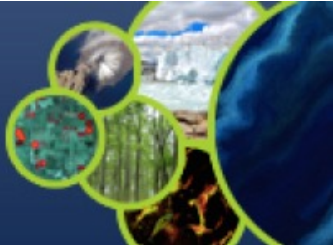
- Geodesy is a complementary provider of Earth Observations
- GNSS and gravity measurements can contribute to Disaster Risk Reduction
- Potential Pilot Projects:
  - Explore advantages of GNSS PPP (absolute, massive...)
  - Exploit GNSS Troposphere and/or Ionosphere solutions to improve InSAR data
  - Tsunami early warning systems (ionosphere)
  - Flood warning (GNSS-R)
  - Extreme weather events (troposphere)
  - Earthquake precursor (gravity gradient from space mission)
  - ...



## BONUS SLIDES



# Theoretical concepts of tsunami-induced TEC signature

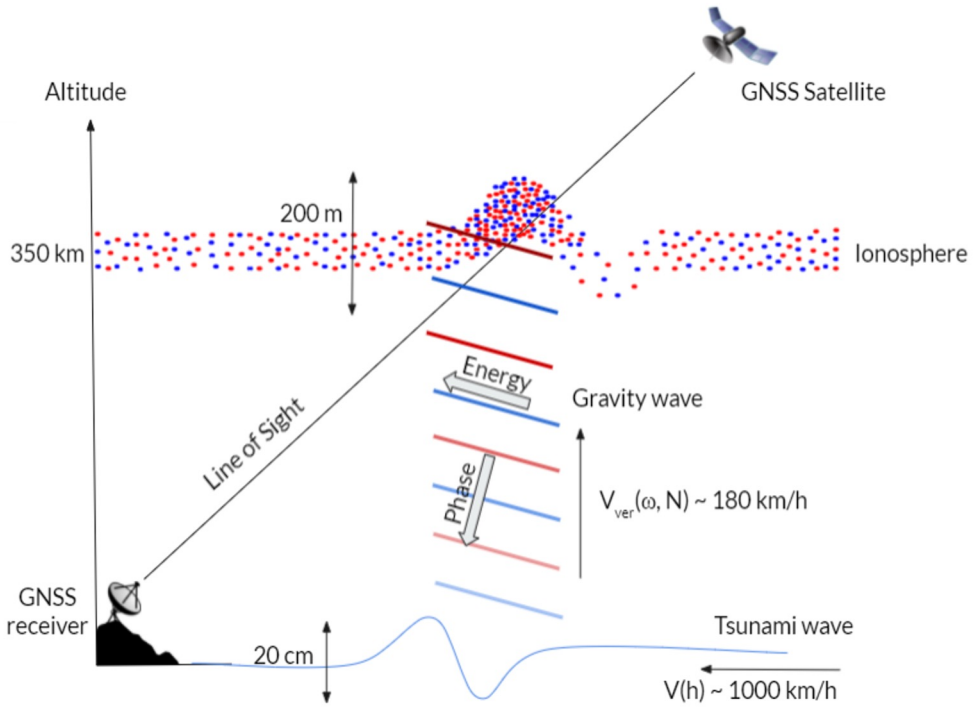


**What is the ionospheric total electron content (TEC)?**

$$TEC = \int n_e(s) ds$$

**How is it computed?**

$$I = \frac{40.3 (f_1^2 - f_2^2)}{f_1^2 f_2^2} 10^{16} TEC$$





Craddock BuenosAiresGGRF GGOS Sendai Framework -F.pdf - Adobe Reader

Fichier Edition Affichage Fenêtre Aide

13 / 17 50%

Remplir et signer Commentaire

## ***New International Initiative Supporting GNSS Enhanced Tsunami Early Warning Systems***

**GEO GROUP ON  
EARTH OBSERVATIONS**

### **Geodesy for the Sendai Framework Community Activity (Working Group)**

**Focused on supporting geodetic development and  
capacity building for disaster risk reduction and  
resilience**

**Work addressing geodetic elements of targets and  
indicators of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk  
Reduction**

**Integration with UN Sustainable Development Goals  
and World Bank Integrated Geospatial Information  
Framework**

**Led by IAG, GGOS, and IUGG representatives;  
*new participants are welcome!***

#### **Disaster Risk Reduction** A GEO Priority Engagement Area

*GEO supports Disaster Risk Reduction  
by improving coordination of Earth  
observations to increase ability to  
disaster forecasting, preparation,  
mitigation, management  
and recovery.*



**GEO GROUP ON  
EARTH OBSERVATIONS**

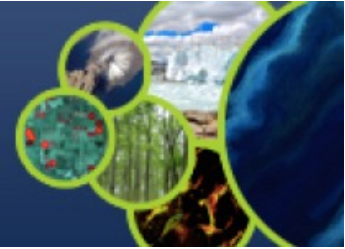
@GEOSEC2025  
www.earthobservations.org

Rechercher sur Windows

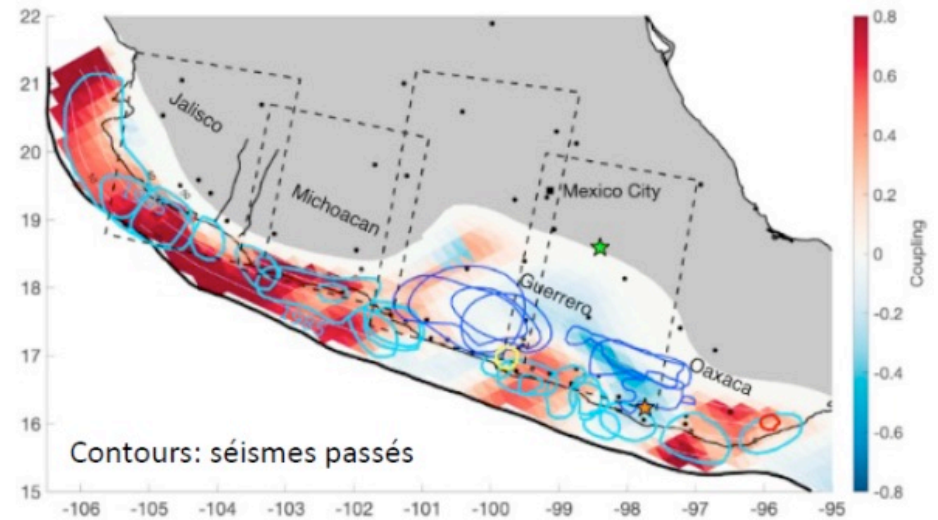
20:57  
12/12/2019



# Hybridizing InSAR and GNSS



- GNSS is widely used to estimate strain accumulation along tectonic faults and map seismic coupling
- Resolution limited by the GNSS network density
- Hybridizing InSAR and GNSS data drastically improves the solution



Earth and Planetary Science Letters

Volume 586, 15 May 2022, 117534

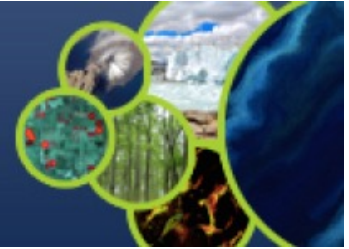


## Interseismic coupling along the Mexican subduction zone seen by InSAR and GNSS

Louise Maubant <sup>a, b</sup>, Mathilde Radiguet <sup>a</sup>, Erwan Pathier <sup>a</sup>, Marie-Pierre Doin <sup>a</sup>, Nathalie Cotte <sup>a</sup>, Ekaterina Kazachkina <sup>c</sup>, Vladimir Kostoglodov <sup>c</sup>



# Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS)



Created by IAG in 2003



Focus Area

Unified Height  
System

[Learn more](#)



Focus Area

Geohazards  
Monitoring

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Focus Area

Sea Level  
Change,  
Variability, and  
Forecasting

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Focus Area

Geodetic Space  
Weather  
Research

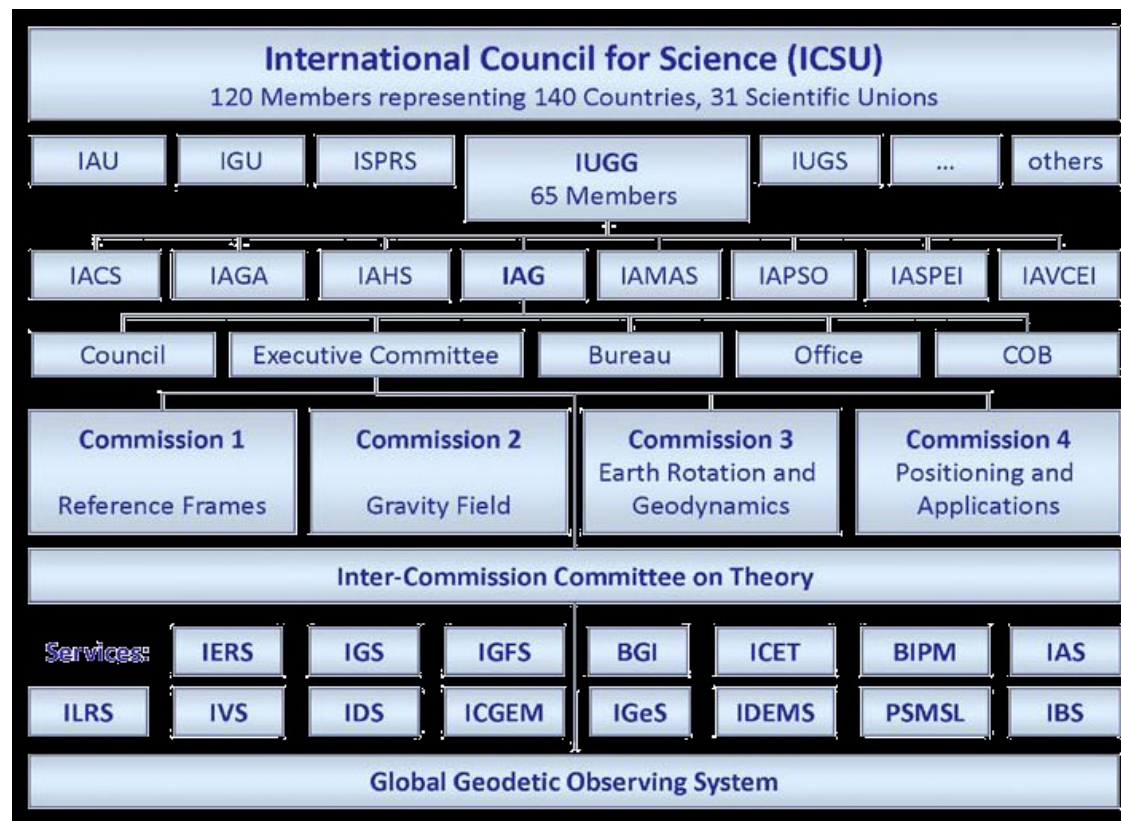
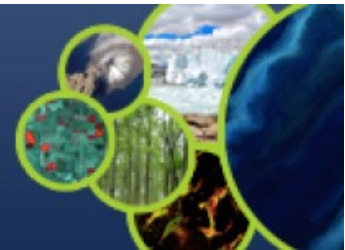
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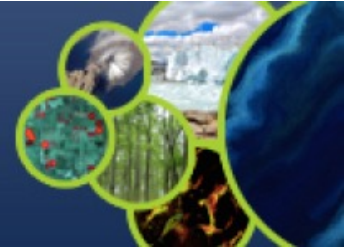


International Association of Geodesy (1864)

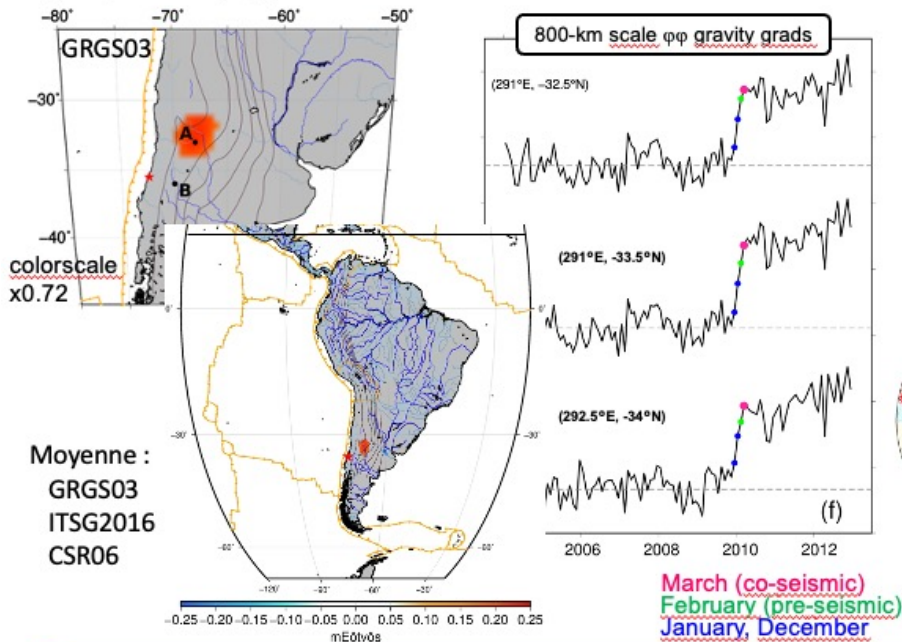
International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (1919)

International earth rotation and reference frame service (1987)



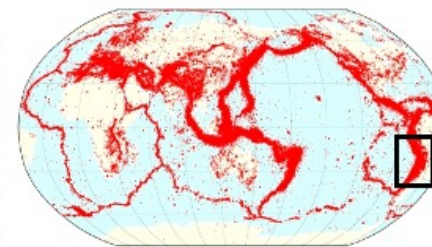


Signal pré-sismique, juillet-fév. 2010



Bouih et al., EPSL, 2022

**27 Février 2010,  
séisme de Maule  
( $M_w$  8.8)**

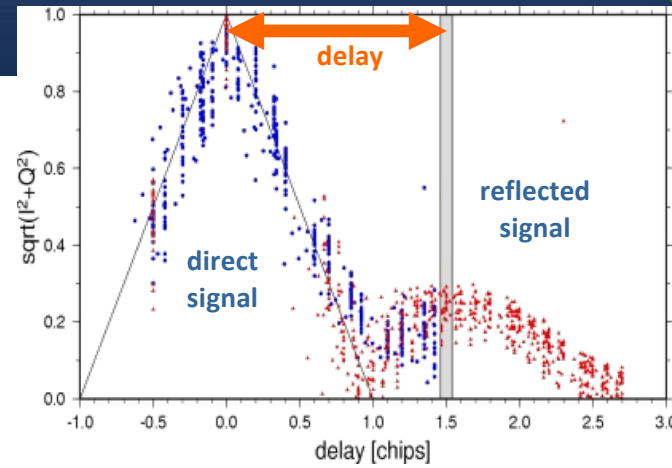
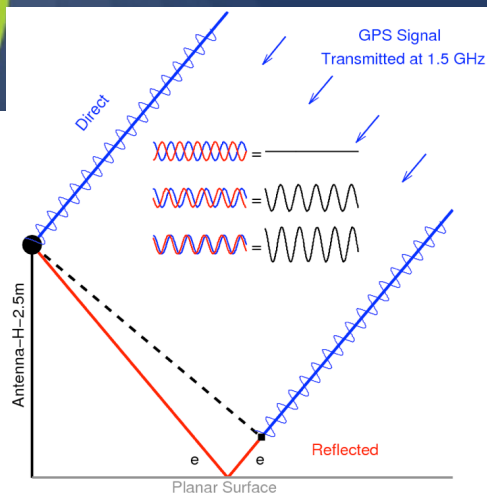
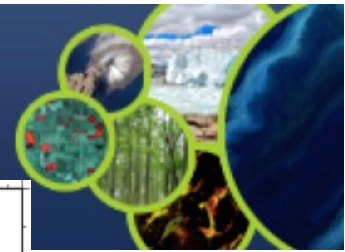


Sismicité globale 1964-2008 (ISC)

- Détection de **signaux anormaux dans les gradients de gravité dans les mois précédant le séisme**, attribués à une extension pré-sismique de la plaque subduite vers 150-km de profondeur (forces de traction exercées par la plaque plongée).
- La rupture pourrait résulter de la propagation vers la surface de cette déformation.



# Principe et intérêt de la réflectométrie



*A. Helm, GFZ, Allemagne*

- Exploitation des multi-trajets
- Le signal réfléchi par l'eau liquide, solide ou le sol permet de mesurer :
  - La hauteur du récepteur par rapport à la surface
  - l'humidité des sols
  - salinité
  - courants, rugosité,...

